

Church News.

THE DAYTON MISSION.

The brotherhood has been kept pretty well informed as to the progress of the mission work in Chicago through Brother McFaden's delightful letters, and occasionally we hear of the good work that is being done in Washington City, but the Dayton mission seems to have been entirely lost sight of. To the best of my recollection not one inch of space in the EVANGELIST has ever been devoted to it, nor a single dollar expended on it except the liberal donation made by the Warsaw, Ind., congregation about the time of the last conference. The National Mission Board, soon after their reorganization last September, announced their intention of directing the missionary energies of the church to the maintenance of a mission at each of the three points I have named—Chicago, Washington and Dayton. The plan was an admirable one, and the wisdom of the Board was evinced not only by the selection of these cities—each one a representative city in its way—but they displayed excellent judgment by limiting the number to three. Chicago was well chosen because it is, with possibly one exception, the most cosmopolitan city of the country, and presents every possible variety of soil for the planting of the seeds of Gospel truth. Washington was well chosen, not only because of the importance of the city as the nation's capital, but because a Macedonian cry was already coming from the little band which had established itself here on a "Gospel alone" doctrine. Dayton was well chosen because it is the most thoroughly Dunkard city of the country. There are perhaps more professional and business men in Dayton of Dunkard extraction and Dunkard proclivities than in any other city in the United States, and if, as in Bible times, a readiness to receive the doctrine which the missionary brings be accounted a proper ground for special missionary effort, then surely Dayton is as inviting and as deserving a field for the missionary enterprises of the Brethren church as any city the Board could have chosen.

While we have all rejoiced at the excellent success which has attended Brother McFaden's patient and self-sacrificing labors in Chicago, I am sure that there are some who have grieved because the church has not manifested a disposition to push forward the work in Dayton as well. The members of the Mission Board write me that they stand ready to do everything in their power to assist the Dayton mission, but a lack of funds sadly limits their power to do the work which they would so gladly do.

With the hope that a sense of the importance and the duty of supporting the missionary enterprises of the church may thus be impressed upon the mind of some reader, I will give a brief account of the Dayton work, its present needs and its future prospects. An organization of the Brethren church had been sustained in Dayton till the fall of 1896, when it was abandoned in order to place the work wholly in the hands of the Mission Board. The Board endeavored to secure the services of an efficient and capable man to be in personal charge of the work, but through no fault of their own, they failed to secure any one. The scattered members, without organization or pastor or place of worship, were praying for help. Their hopes were kindled by each new promise only to be shattered by subsequent disappointment, and there seemed to be reason to fear that unless something was done at once the cause of the Brethren church in Dayton would be lost.

At this juncture some of the Brethren asked me to come, and at their invitation I began a meeting March 1, and continued till March 29. The meetings for the first two weeks were held in a room which had been a saloon, but the Lord had transformed the den of Satan into a temple for himself, and here in a small room, with rough benches and a rudely improvised pulpit, we met night after night and enjoyed the presence and grace and goodness of God. Nor was his power absent, for the meetings were not only attended by a revival of God's children, but by the conversion of sinners. Our surroundings were humble, but the prayers and songs were eloquent with feeling, and when I heard them pray I realized how much in earnest these people are and how eager to see the cause of the Master built up. I tried to tell the story of the cross, not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but simply and plainly, and the Spirit's power accompanied the Word.

After holding meetings at "the mission" for two weeks, we removed to our own rented church. Here I felt more at home, for at the mission people would drop in at any time during the evening, sometimes to remain only long enough to hear a Gospel song, sometimes with packages in their hands just as they returned from the shop or store, and altogether I found it a task to preach to a "travelling" congregation. But when we moved to the church these objectionable features disappeared. The church which we rented is small, but quite large enough for our purpose, and is neat and inviting in appearance. We have rented it for a year and expect to be able to pay the rent and for the lighting and heating and other inci-

dental expenses without asking any help from the Mission Board.

We have organized a Sunday school and are gathering in the children. We have a weekly prayer meeting and will have preaching service each alternate Sunday afternoon. In this way we hope to keep the work alive at least till the Board is able to put some one in permanent charge of the work. But some one is needed so badly. No successful, aggressive work can be done by my going once in two weeks and preaching one sermon and leaving them again for two weeks more, but this is all that can be done *till the church will strengthen the hands of the Mission Board* and thus enable them to set a man over this work. During the meeting I baptized eight and received one by relation. Many more will unite with the church when they are assured that the work will be a permanent one. The Lord help us to do our duty, and may he abundantly bless the Dayton mission.

J. M. TOMBAUGH.

Washington C. H., O.

FALLS CITY, NEB.

As is known to a large extent throughout our brotherhood, the Falls City church has no house of worship in the city, but a commodious place at Silver Creek, about 4 miles north, where nearly all our services were conducted until a year ago, when by the help of brother J. R. Keller, our pastor, the church rented a house in town to meet in twice a month. The addition of members and interest in our services have encouraged our members to build "a house unto the Lord," and thus we are making an effort to raise means and proceed with the work. Brother Keller is very zealous in his work for the Lord's cause and we believe there is great success for us in this year. God is abundantly blessing his work and we are encouraged.

OUR PAPER.

How lonesome we are when we miss one number of the EVANGELIST. We praise God for the good news of No. 11—of so many souls led to Christ. I expect criticism on the act of brother Z. H. Copp for baptizing one who was not willing to follow the Lord in all things. For my part I claim the brother did his duty when he now teaches the baptized to observe all things the Lord has commanded. God help us to pray that further obedience may follow.

TRINE IMMERSION.

The experience of Brother Palmer at Garrett, Ill., reminds me of the fact that the ancient mode of baptism is again coming to the front, and it appears strange